



From: NJLM - Municipal Clerks [mailto:njlm-clerks@cityconnections.com]
Sent: Monday, April 06, 2009 3:58 PM
To: Lashway, Lisa
Subject: From NJLM Three Mayors Ltrs

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LEAGUE ALERT

Municipal Clerk: Please forward to Mayor and Governing Body.

April 6, 2009

Re: I Age-Restricted Housing Conversion Legislation

Census 2010 Update

Re: II

National Donate Life Month

Re: III

Re: I. Age-Restricted Housing Conversion Legislation

Dear Mayor:

We have received a number of questions regarding the status of A-3772 /S-2577, which allows for the conversion of approved age-restricted housing to market rate housing. This legislation passed both houses of the legislature last month and now sits on the Governor's Desk. The League has written to the Governor and to all sponsors, and requested a veto of the legislation.

Since the approval of this legislation on Monday, March 16 by the General Assembly and State Senate respectively, there has been a strong groundswell of opposition from our membership, based on its infringement on home rule and local zoning prerogatives, and the speed in which it traveled through the Legislature.

If you have not done so already, we recommend that you also contact the Governor's Office to request a veto and express concerns of your municipality. You can direct your correspondence to:

William Castner, Esq,
Chief Counsel, Office of the Governor
Statehouse, PO Box 001

Trenton, NJ 08625

Fax: (609) 777-0393; E-mail: William.castner@gov.state.nj.us

Please copy the League on any correspondence you send.

For more on this legislation, please see our March 24 Dear Mayor letter.

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director

Re: II. Census 2010 Update

Dear Mayor:

As a follow-up to our Census 2010 Get out the Count Press Conference we had last week we are writing to let you know that the Census Bureau is launching a massive operation this week to verify and update more than 145 million addresses as it prepares to conduct the 2010 Census. In New Jersey, about 3000 people will carry out the operation. April 1 marked the official one year out for the countdown to the 2010 Census.

Address canvassers will use new hand held computers equipped with GPS to increase geographic accuracy. The ability to capture GPS coordinates for most of the nation's housing units will greatly reduce the number of geographic coding errors caused by using paper maps in previous counts.

The address canvassing operation will be conducted out of 151 local census offices across the U.S., including those in Camden, Hoboken, Rocky Hill, and Trenton. Most offices will begin operations April 6. In most cases, census workers will knock on residents' doors to verify addresses and inquire about additional living quarters on the premises. This is the first census to include group quarters (such as dormitories, group homes, prisons and homeless shelters) in the address canvassing operation, which should improve both the accuracy and coverage of the final count.

Census workers can be identified by the official Census Bureau badge they carry. During the address canvassing operation, census workers may ask to verify a housing structure's address and the existence of any additional living quarters on the property.

2010 Census workers will never ask for bank or social security information. All census information collected, including addresses, are confidential and protected by law. The Census Bureau cannot share respondents' answers with the FBI, the IRS, CIA, Welfare, Immigration, or any other government agency. No court of law or law enforcement agency can find out respondents' answers. All Census Bureau employees — including temporary employees — take an oath for life to keep census information confidential. Any violation of that oath is punishable by a fine of up to \$250,000 and five years in prison.

For further information, please contact Leonard Preston, of the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, at (609) 984-2216, or at lpreston@dol.state.nj.us

For more information on our Committee's involvement see the League's website at www.njslom.org.

Very truly yours,

Hon. Randy Brown, Mayor of Evesham
Member League Executive Board and Chairman
of the 2010 Municipal Census Awareness Committee

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director

Re: III. National Donate Life Month

Dear Mayor:

League Executive Board Member, Mayor Sharon Robinson-Briggs of Plainfield, our League Liaison to the NJ Sharing Network, has asked us to remind you that April is National Donate Life Month.

The purpose of the Network is to enhance awareness of the importance of organ and tissue donation. And the goal of National Donate Life Month is to focus attention on what we can all do to provide hope for the over 4,500 New Jerseyans currently awaiting vital transplants.

We are enclosing a Draft Proclamation, so that your municipality can participate in this important initiative.

We want to thank Mayor Robinson-Briggs for representing us so well with the NJ Sharing Network and for her compassionate leadership. And we want to encourage you to make your municipality a vibrant part of National Donate Life Month.

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director

DRAFT PROCLAMATION TEXT

Proclamation - April 1, 2009

National Donate Life Month, 2009

A Proclamation

Every human life has matchless value, and during National Donate Life Month, we reaffirm our commitment to raising awareness about organ donation and the importance of making the decision to donate. We also express our appreciation to those who have donated organs, tissue, and marrow.

Over 100,000 of Americans, over 4,500 in New Jersey, are currently on the waiting list for an organ transplant and thousands more need life enhancing tissue transplants. I urge all New Jersey residents to register with the state's donor registry; say yes to organ and tissue donation on their driver's license; and share their decision with family and friends. By taking these steps, New Jerseyans can help save lives. My Administration is committed to strengthening organ and tissue donation programs and to increase the number of organs available for transplantation in order to save lives. The kindness and generosity of donors reflect the compassionate spirit of our state.

During National Donate Life Month, we celebrate the life-saving work of medical professionals and researchers and the many others whose actions reflect our commitment to a brighter tomorrow. Individuals can visit www.DonateLifeNJ.org to learn more about organ and tissue donation and how they can give the gift of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, _____, Mayor of _____, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the citizens of _____, do hereby proclaim April 2009 as Donate Life Month. I call upon health care professionals, volunteers, educators, government agencies, faith-based and community groups, and private organizations to help raise awareness of the urgent need for organ and tissue donors throughout our state.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand nine.

NJLM

222 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608